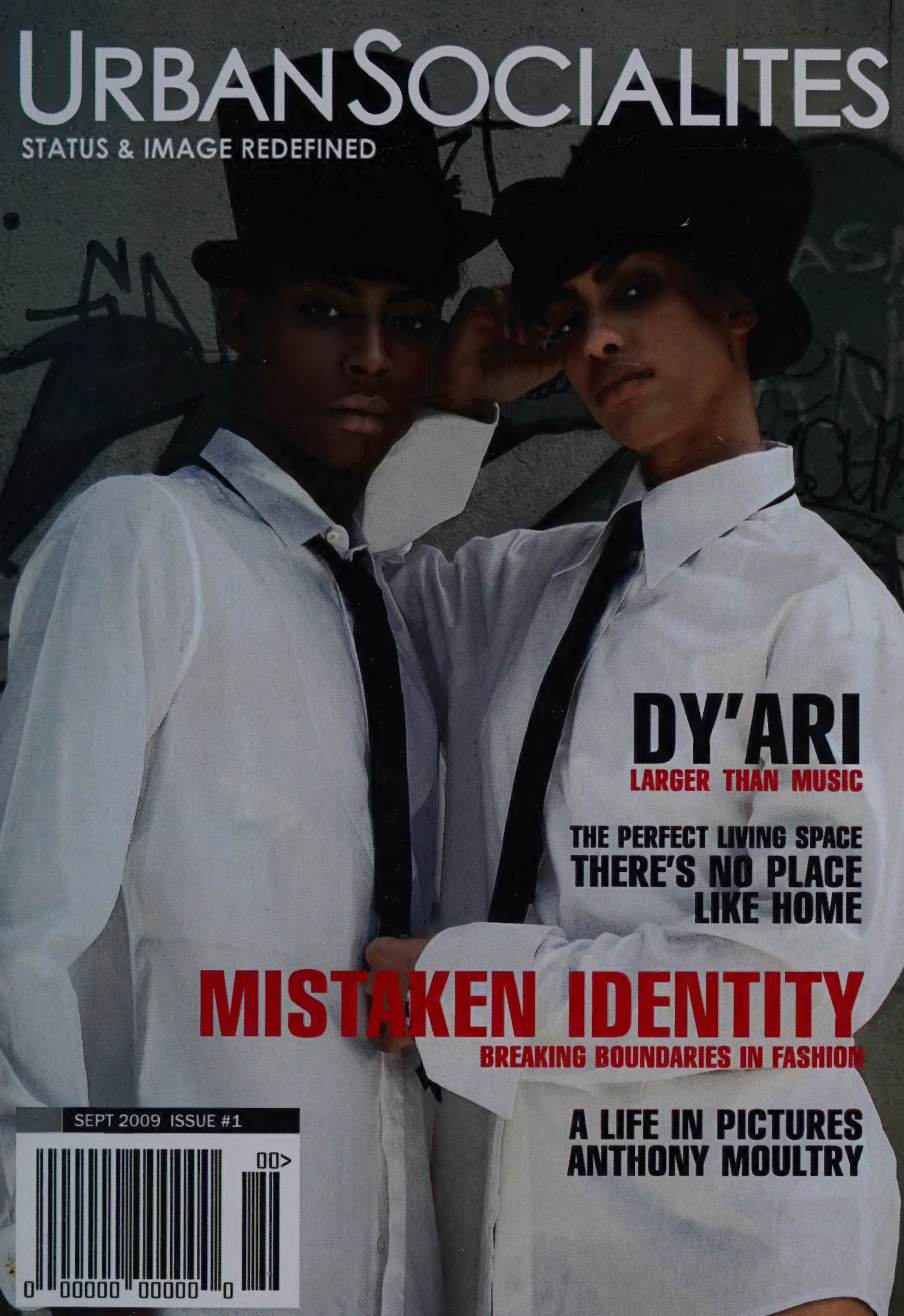
URBAN SOCIALITES
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DY'ARI
LARGER THAN MUSIC
THE PERFECT LIVING SPACE
THERE'S NO PLACE
LIKE HOME
MISTAKEN IDENTITY
BREAKING BOUNDARIES IN FASHION
A LIFE IN PICTURES
ANTHONY MOULTRY
SEPT 2009 ISSUE #1

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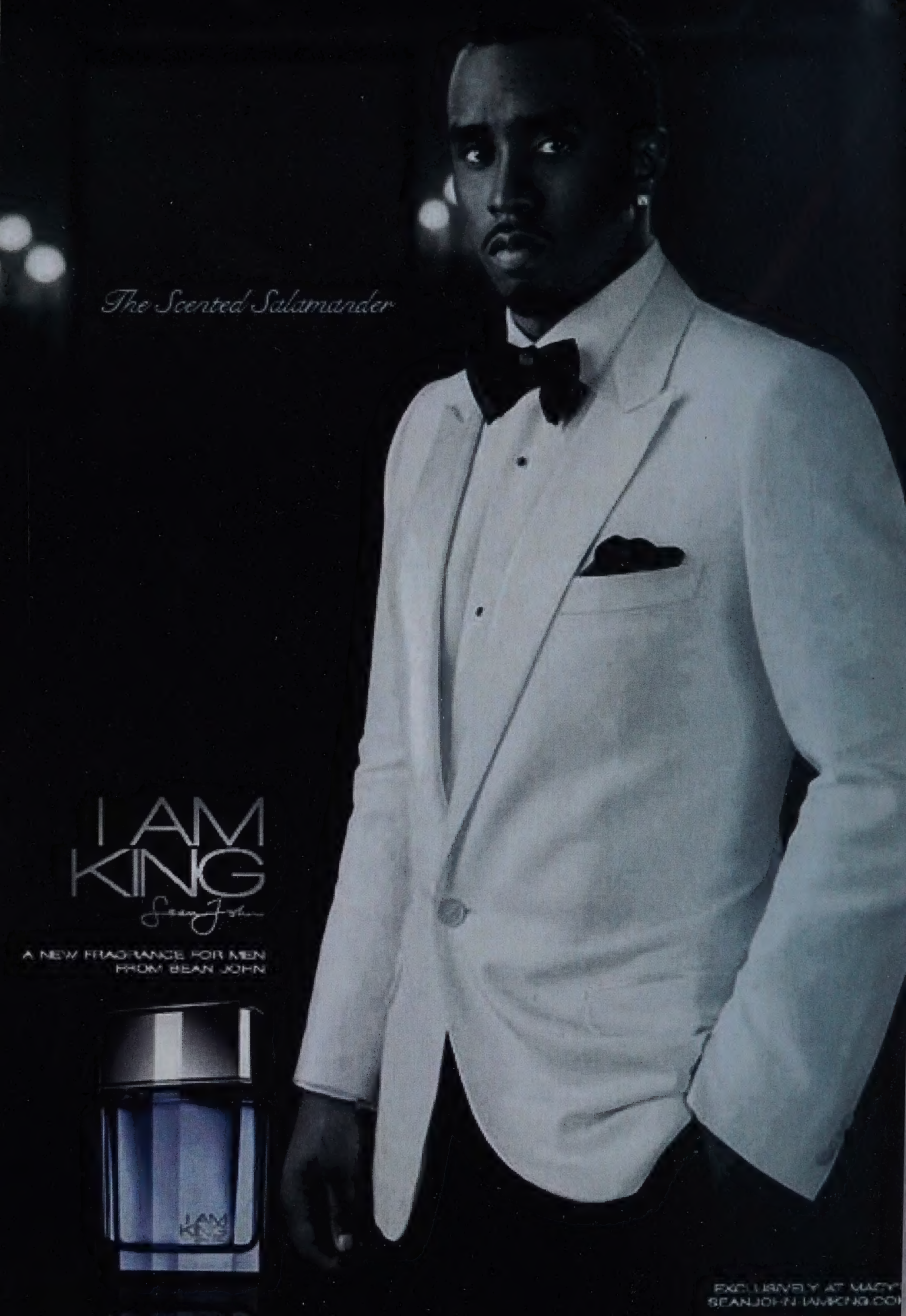

URBANSOCIALITES

WHERE METRO'S NETWORK AND SOCIALIZE

URBANSOCIALITES

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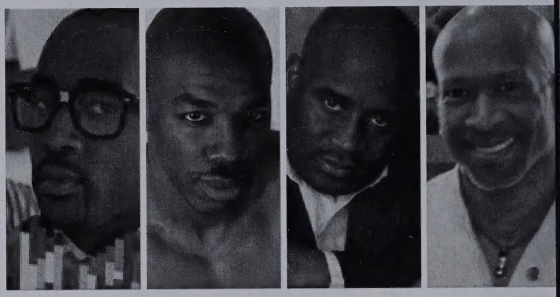

MIKEL WELCH Co-Owner of Dwell Interior Design Solutions and Soiree Special Events and Management Firm. Our goal is to bring each customer's unique vision to life, because ultimately they have to live with the design. I believe design should be simple and affordable."

MARQUISE JAMES is a insured professional nationally certified massage therapist, a member of ATMA and a certified aroma therapist. A therapist's most important concern should be that you are pleased with your experience.

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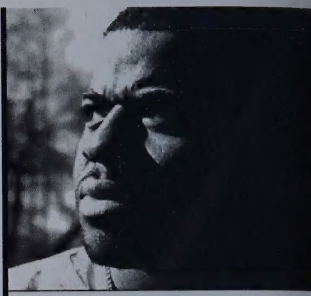

FROM THE EDITOR

You are a product of your environment. So choose the environment that will best develop you toward your objective. Analyze your life in terms of its environment. Are the things around you helping you toward success - or are they holding you back?" How you look and how you conduct yourself tells others who you are. Personal grooming habits, appropriate dress, neatness, your smile – or lack of it, eye contact, even your accessories impact how others perceive you. Common courtesies, a positive helpful attitude, and a kind word for everyone you meet will go a long way towards creating a favorable image. First impressions are indelible and will often tell others what they can expect if your

Confidence is that underlying knowledge that you can accomplish what you set out to do.

UrbanSocialites celebrate US and exposes you to everything that can influence and promote the best lifestyle.

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On the Cover:

Photographer: Don Brodie
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Make Up: Jewel Whinfield
Hair: Goldie
Models: AzMarie @ identities
Kadeem @ JG Models

AzMarie wears:
shirt by Darius Wobil
tie by Kenneth Cole
Hat by Rod Keenan

Kadeem wears:
tuxedo shirt by Louis Vuitton
tie by Givenchy
hat by Rod Keenan

Kadeem wears:
tights by American Apparel Men's
shoes by Fratelli Rosetti
neck piece by Two Rooms Jewelry

Design

"There's no place like home." As cliché as it sounds, this commonly used phrase seems to speak nothing far from the truth. With all of the monotonous hustle and bustle of city life, the home serves as a tranquil escape route to inner peace. However, in these tough economic times, it can often seem like you and that freeway to your dream home are miles away. Fortunately, there are many inexpensive solutions that can help you bridge the gap between you and your perfect living space.

As a Home Stager and Interior Designer, one of my greatest obstacles is finding unique pieces on a cost effective budget. When posed with this challenge, I generally seek refuge in the most unconventional places. You will be surprised with the numerous amount of ideas that you can find when you step outside of the box. Some of my favorite places to get inspired are Hardware Stores, Dollar Stores and The Trash. I encourage everyone to take a field trip to any one of these unconventional places and find alternate uses for every product that you pick up.

Pictured above, is a Model Home that I recently completed in Brooklyn, NY. In stead of using paint for this project, I decided to accent the walls using 1X4" Plywood planks and basic 3" inch nails that can be found in most Hardware Stores for under $5.00 a piece. The best part, because your using natural wood, no two pieces are ex-

actly the same. This wall design is definitely a conversation piece and quickly adds character to any generic beige wall. This technique is also great for those who rent and have restrictions on painting the walls. Each wooden plank only requires 2 nails to hold itself in place which can easily be spackled once you leave the apartment.

Another unexpected place to explore great home décor ideas happens to be the most frugal of all, the Dollar Store. The key to $1 shopping is to be very open minded, yet discriminative. When shopping, always pause and see if you can find a different way to use a product than its original purpose. If you look closely at the top of the brown bookcase in the picture, you will find a circular statue. This statue was created using a $1 hula hoop that is covered and wrap with hardware twine and then nailed into an excess piece of ply wood (from the wall technique).

My last tip to aid you in designing the perfect living space comes from the trash. Yes, one man's junk, is another man's treasure .Don't be afraid to rummage through your neighborhood the night before trash day to search for hidden treasures. Now, I'm not suggestion that you dive into your neighbor's trash receptacle or tear through numerous bags of garbage. But, you will generally find gently used items that many people place to the side of their garbage cans in the event that someone wants to pick it up. It's generally best to find the Artsy Areas of town for the greatest rubbage finds. The white book case pictured above features several books, pictures, rocks and accessories that were all collected outside of trash cans in a Brooklyn. With a little dusting off and spray paint, you turn items that you find into true master pieces.

Hopefully, these tips will give you a jump start on your road trip to creating the perfect living space. Please, feel free to view my website at www.mikelwelch.com or email me at mikel@mikelwelch.com for general questions or more inspirational design ideas. ■

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Food

A VEGGIE TRAY FROM KROGERS? ...ARE YOU KIDDING ME!

Carlton A. Brown | Occasional Occasions by Carlton

Here we are....in the midst of the summer, and there's nothing better than the smell of a fired up grill from a back yard Barbecue. That aroma is even better...if you are the INVITEE and not the HOST. But who dares to show up empty handed. Sure....no one wants to look like an in-grateful slacker. So you stop by your nearest grocery store and pick up the proverbial chips and dip, or maybe even one of those lack luster veggie trays. All of this, in an effort to hopefully impress the host enough that they insist on you taking a to-go plate when you leave. How pathetic! Well, we know that you stopped by the Kroger's because you wanted the easy way out. So here is a simple recipe to try that is just refreshing, inexpensive, quick, and definitely brings a small WOW factor. It's called Balsamic Strawberry Salsa, and you will be both amazed and surprised as to how the strawberries and the tomatoes compliment each other. I presented this dish at my catered tasting, called THE TASTE in June, and it was definitely a hit. Here is a recipe yielding about 4 cups:

ULTIMATE OCEAN BREEZE

Hypnotic
Vodka
Fresh Lemon Juice
Simple Syrup
Splash of Blue Curacao

BALSAMIC STRAWBERRY SALSA

6 tablespoons olive oil*
2 tablespoons white balsamic vinegar**
½ teaspoon salt
1 pint fresh strawberries, hull removed, coarsely chopped
8 green onions, chopped
2 pints grape/ cherry tomatoes, coarsely chopped
½ cup chopped fresh cilantro

* **Plain olive oil...not extra virgin**
** **Can't find white balsamic vinegar? Use 3 parts balsamic vinegar, 1 part white wine**

Whisk together first 3 ingredients in a large bowl; add strawberries and remaining ingredients, tossing to coat. Cover and chill atleast 1 hour.

Bon Appetit!

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Grooming

Politics

By: Chris Rudisill

A LOOK AT HEALTHCARE REFORM

Health insurance coverage? Preventative care? Delivery system reform? I'm not sure about you, but I'm feeling a little overwhelmed with all this talk about healthcare reform. In watching the news, listening to Obama answer questions at town hall meetings and reading the bombardment of mixed messages you can find online – I still have one important question – what does it mean to me?

What does healthcare reform mean to LGBT families?

Will it change how LGBT people are treated in hospitals and doctor's offices across the country? Will it open up benefits to same-sex couples and their families?

The National Coalition for LGBT Health has been looking at these exact issues as well and recently released a document titled "Guiding Principles for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Inclusion in Healthcare Reform." These principles have been sent to President Obama and members of Congress for consideration. According to Rebecca Fox, national director of the organization, "LGBT people suffer disproportionately from the adverse health effects of stigma, stress and violence, further compounded by the barriers that prevent them from accessing vital healthcare services even for routine care."

The Department of Health and Human Services recognized these barriers in the '90s during its 10-year plan for improving the nation's health, Healthy People 2010, and again in Healthy People 2020, in which the HHS Secretary's Advisory Committee called on the necessity of targeting the specific needs of the LGBT community when undertaking healthcare system reform. Yet, you hear nothing of it on the nightly news and very rarely in LGBT news outlets.

Here's a quick look at some of the issues that the National Coalition for LGBT Health looks at in its report:

A GUARANTEED ACCESS TO CARE

The current system of employer-based coverage is often a

barrier to people in the LGBT community, when many companies do not extend coverage eligibility to same-sex partners and children that may be a part of those families. Even when companies do provide domestic partner benefits, federal tax law still creates extra barriers to both the individual and the employer. Currently 57 percent of Fortune 500 companies, as well as 16 state governments and the District of Columbia offer these benefits. However, health benefits offered to (heterosexual married) spouses and children are tax-exempt, but those same benefits are taxed when offered to domestic partners and same-sex spouses in the states where those marriages are recognized. A joint study by CAP and The Williams Institute found that these taxes add up to $1,069 per year for the average employee receiving benefits and $57 million annually for the employers that offer them. This discourages many companies from offering an equitable policy for domestic partner families. The House Ways and Means Committee's version of the health reform bill contains language from the Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act, which should end this differential tax treatment for health benefits to domestic partners.

INCLUSION OF LGBT IDENTITIES AND FAMILIES IN POLICY AND LEGISLATION

This is more of a technical issue that adversely affects coverage to LGBT families. The organization calls for a removal of terms like "family," "parent" and "spouse," which are often used to exclude LGBT families on the basis that they are not protected by legal marriage in many states. Only six states currently recognize same-sex marriages and only nine states specifically allow an LGBT person to adopt their partners' children. According to the report, "as long as the federal government's definition of families is exclusive of LGBT households, same-sex partners who have entered into domestic partnerships and civil unions will not be able to access healthcare through programs designed to cover families, such as the State Children's Health Insurance Program."

TRANSGENDER ISSUES

Whenever you talk about healthcare and the LGBT community, you cannot overlook the plethora of problems that exist for transgender people. The high rate of discrimination toward transgender people in the workplace often results in higher rates of unemployment and further reduces access to coverage. Many transgender individuals with a previous diagnosis or history of treatment for transsexualism report being denied basic coverage from insurance providers. Many insurance plans, private and public, also do not cover the costs of transitioning (or sex-change surgery and hormone treatments). Transgender people also have very specific health needs. "They may require medical treatment related to both their birth-assigned gender and their current gender," according to Josh Rosenthal with the Center for American Progress. In a report on LGBT issues in health reform, Rosenthal points out an example of a transgender woman who may be at risk for both prostate cancer and breast cancer.

CONFIDENTIALITY

While providers should be open to their clients, so that patients feel comfortable to discuss their sexual orientation and/or gender identity, thus improving the care provided – they must also follow strict guidelines of confidentiality in medical reports. It is still legal in 30 states to fire someone on the basis of sexual orientation, and 38 states allow an employer to fire someone on the basis of gender identity. Health information technology can improve care and save costs, but it could also put LGBT people at risk.

Healthcare reform is much needed in our country. It will help LGBT people as much as it will all Americans, when finally resolved. However it is still essential, as it is in other communities like the African-American and Latin-American communities, that LGBT-specific issues be taken into consideration and looked at to ensure a package that helps instead of hinders our community as a whole. ■

Wellness

Massage therapy spans a wide variety of therapeutic approaches, working to improve an individual's health and well-being through the hands-on manipulation of muscles and other soft tissues of the body. Doctors are increasingly recommending it to their patients for stress relief. Additionally, it is being used as part of wider treatment programs for many medical conditions, including chronic pain. Many businesses are now seeing its potential to boost worker productivity, help morale, and decrease the number of days that employees miss work. Public interest in complementary therapies has helped many consumers to try massage.

It is not commonly known, but in many states, individuals with no training at all can open massage businesses, so long as they do not refer to themselves as certified or licensed, or otherwise falsely represent themselves.

So how do you find a good legitimate massage therapist (M.T.)?

CHOOSING A MASSAGE THERAPIST

Marquise James is a insured professional nationally certified massage therapist, a member of ATMA and a certified aromatherapist. He is licensed to pratice massage in the state of Georgia.

Personal referrals from friends or healthcare providers are a great way to find a massage therapist. You can also look one up in the Yellow Pages or online, but make sure you talk with them on the phone or via email before going for your session.

A therapist's most important concern should be that you are pleased with your experience. So when you go to look for a therapist, and to ensure that your expectations are met, open a line of communication between you and your potential M.T. A therapist should want to share information about their businesses and should therefore welcome any questions you may have.

If you have never had a massage before, you could be nervous and not know what to expect. Asking questions can help you to be more relaxed which will make your first massage experience even more enjoyable.

QUESTIONS TO ASK A THERAPIST

1. What certifications do you hold?
2. Are you state and nationally certified? (NCTBMB Certification) (Since there is not yet standardization in this industry, many aren't nationally certified. This does not necessarily mean that they are not qualified.)
3. How long have you been practicing massage?
4. Do you give discounts if I refer people who I know to you?
5. What kind of oils, creams, products, etc. do you use?
6. Do you use a drape while massaging? (ie. A sheet or other covering for the client)
7. What kind of training have you had?
8. What types of massage will you be using?
9. What are your prices? Do you have any specials, packages, or discounts?
10. Do you sell the products you use?
11. How long will the session last?
12. What kind of payments do you accept? cash, check, credit card?
13. How can I make an appointment?
14. Do you have references?

What to Expect to Pay

Just like most service-related industries, the price of massage varies and is determined by demand, location, type of experience, and experience of the therapist.

Within a local area, the price for a massage can vary greatly. Some therapists offer shorter massages at discount prices, but to get the most out of a massage, don't try to find the best deal.

There is no set price for a massage. The range for a one-person massage at present is between $25 and $85/hour for a therapeutic massage. The average price in Denver, Colorado seems to be about $55/hour. The price will generally be less if the therapist has less experience. Massage will also, on the average, be less expensive in rural areas and more expensive in larger cities.

Expect to pay more in most day spas. The treatment you get often involves more than a massage session. You can often get a facial, manicure, pedicure, body wrap, skin peel, etc. Many of the massage therapists in day spas are actually employees of the spas and receive a percentage of the amount you pay to the spa. Day spas generally start at $60 for an hour massage and go up, depending on what is included, demand, location, etc.

Many therapists offer specials. Ask about these. Ask as many questions of your therapist as you want to be sure your expectations are met. Some therapists will offer an introductory massage while others have discounts for buying a package of sessions. It never hurts to ask.

Legitimate massage therapists are professionals. Many hours of training and practice allow them to offer an incredible service to you. If you are satisfied with your massage, tipping or offering a little extra will show how much you enjoyed the experience. Also, giving positive feedback can help the therapist to reach more people and become more successful.

What you want to consider post-massage

Following your massage, evaluate what the session felt like, how you felt after the session, etc. Personality fit is important when choosing a massage therapist, as is trust. You should feel confident in and comfortable with the massage therapist. Massage therapists use a variety of techniques, so you may need to try a few different practitioners to find one that fits your needs. ■

THE DEPTH OF YOUR GREATNESS

"Allow Your Greatness To Unfold"

WThe year 2009 is swiftly succeeding, and with all that's showing up in the world around us, what an odd yet amazing year it has been! Despite the mulching in our global economy, unemployment hitting an all time high, home foreclosure rate skyrocketing, the costly fluctuation in gas prices, and so on. We are still able to experience moments of laughter and joy. All these encounters hold within them a code that speaks to our greatness. They evoke an awareness which call-forth mixed feelings and emotions, which are absolutely necessary to our overall personal growth and expansion. I do believe however, what truly lives at the core of all we have seen and experience are the life lessons that guide us to fully own greatness. As we view our lives through the lens of how dynamic and resilient we are, let's remember to give thanks as we celebrate.

Allow me to provoke your thinking for a moment - what goals, dreams and aspirations you hold for yourself, what changes in your life did you set at the start of 2009? Have any materialized? It is important to acknowledge all your results, what manifested and anything that did not materialize. Did you lose your momentum or motivation? Did you allow current events; self doubt and fear to cause you to give up easily, especially when inevitable circumstances arose that challenged your commitment? Or, did you allow yourself to identify with your own greatness?

When I think of the Depth of Greatness, what comes through for me is - how to be and stay inspired all year. Inspiration is an innate quality that fuels our greatness. In order for greatness to unfold, wisdom from within must be activated and, at this level of deep awareness, inspiration guides us through the realms of thought, feeling, and emotion. Now what is inspiration - I experience it as aligning myself with Spirit. It is the ability to feel joyful about everything I Am, everything I Do, and everything I Have. To be Inspired is to be in-alignment with the good I desire! We came from Spirit, and when we live in the realm of aligning self with Spirit, we are better able to Uncover the Depth of Who We Really Are - Our Eternal Greatness.

It is no coincidence that we are having the experiences that come our way. As we look ahead, let's go within and take the very first steps of a journey that cannot be traced on a map. The life we have is our unique opportunity to find our way along a path that can, if we allow it, carry us beyond mediocrity into the land of Spirit where your true Greatness resides. I am committed to Uncover The Depth of my Greatness Will you please join me? ■

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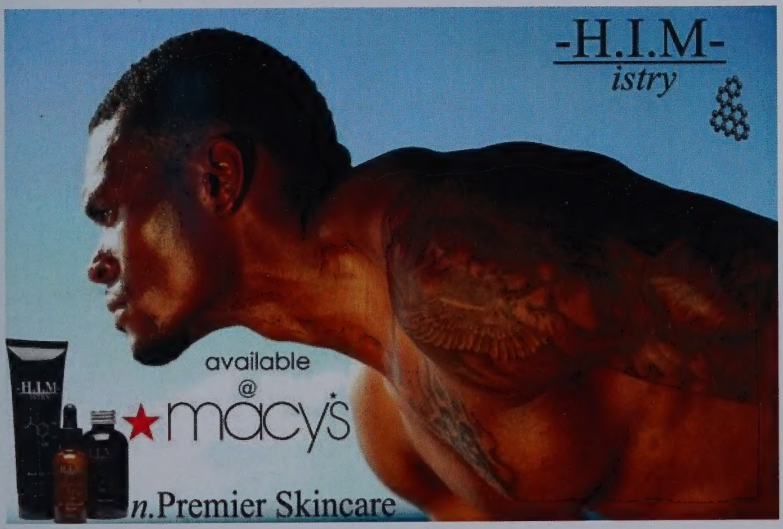
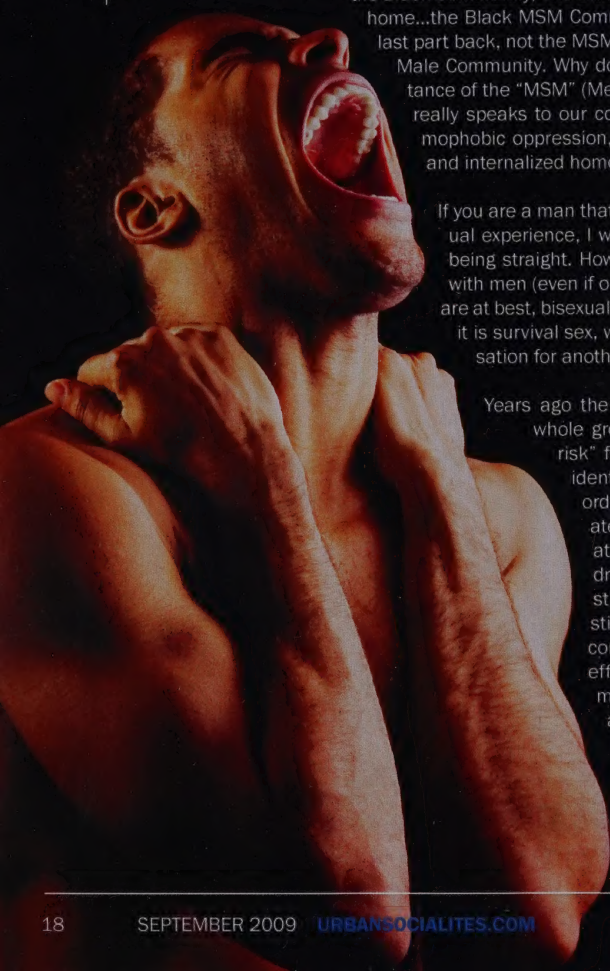


Health

HIV/AIDS has not gone away. It is not a faint threat lying in our shameful past. It is still here and it is still real!

CAN SOMEONE PLEASE RING DA ALARM???



I am tired of the complacency that has mitigated itself into the world, the Black Community, The Black LGBT community and closer to home...the Black MSM Community. Actually let me take that last part back, not the MSM community but the Black "GAY" Male Community. Why do I say this? Because the acceptance of the "MSM" (Men Who Have Sex With Men) term really speaks to our complacency to accept subtle homophobic oppression, sexually identifying segregation and internalized homophobia.

If you are a man that has had 1 or 2 man-to-man sexual experience, I will give you the one-time pass of being straight. However, if you are sleeping around with men (even if on an inconsistent basis) then you are at best, bisexual, but most probably GAY.... unless it is survival sex, which is a totally different conversation for another day.

Years ago the CDC realized that there was a whole group of black men that were "at risk" for HIV infection but they did not identify as "gay" or "bisexual" but in order to identify them, the CDC created the MSM label. Yet no one at the CDC did anything about addressing the real tangible social stigmas and barriers that today still permeates the black gay male community thereby minimizing any efforts to enact real HIV prevention methods. Instead the MSM label allows certain men to continue to navigate through sexual venues in a clout of secrecy and invisibility.

What this has done is allow these brothers to hide fur-

...48 percent of new infections among black men were among those aged 13 to 29.

ther into their webs of deceit. In online social networks it has become a norm for brothers to put their HIV Status on their profiles. Yet it is no secret that brothers are lying about their status. And the few brothers that have the mitigated nerve to put HIV positive on their profiles, do so with hidden or no pictures of themselves on their profiles. In gay chat rooms discussions of HIV and AIDS have become punitive running jokes. Sex parties and sex ads geared towards barebacking interactions are at a rise. Then there is the whole conversation about how other brothers are willing to accept the lies at face value with little if any discussion around the issue.

Agencies facing drastic funding cuts have to struggle how they navigate condom distribution. Community outreach efforts are at a decline. HIV prevention methods are becoming stale and robotic. HIV education is no longer an issue. People know the risks, they know about condom usage and some brothers can do tricks with condoms that put many of our HIV educators to shame.

"DL" brothers (and the quotations are heavily emphasized) have taken on attitudes that because they are not "out there" they are at less risk, therein engaging in increased numbers of unprotected sexual interactions. Social-economic success and sexual roles have become mythical shields brothers rely on as protection from the disease.

CRAZINESS!! Somebody please RING DA ALARM!!!

In 2005, at the HIV Leadership Conference here in Atlanta , a CDC report found that nearly 46% of Black Gay Men in five major cities were HIV-infected.

A recent CDC report found that 48 percent of new infections among black men were among those aged 13 to 29. Having been born into the "age of AIDS", Black Gay Youths have inherited a dangerous level of HIV complacency.

The most recent Census report showed that while African Americans make up 29% of Georgia's population, they make 76% of all the New Reported AIDS Cases for 2004 (according to the 2005 DHR Incidence report)!!! This is happening right here in Atlanta, the widely identified Black Gay Mecca.

Now, the word is out that HIV infection rates in black gay men are continuing to spiral out of control because they face social barriers that have a serious impact on their health and well being, according to a recent study done by H. Fisher Raymond and Willi McFarland, from the San Francisco Department of Public Health. What they found was that Black gay men have less choice when it comes to sexual partners than other groups and, as a result, their sexual networks are closely knit leading to the rapid spread of HIV.

The authors concluded that "The racial disparity in HIV observed for more than a decade will not disappear until the challenges posed by a legacy of racism towards Blacks in the US are addressed."

So someone is finally identifying HIV as a social behavior disease...20 years into the epidemic.

WOW!!!

Now one would imagine that all this would send all kinds of the alarms throughout the Black Gay Male Community. Instead all there has been is SILENCE!!! SILENCE from the CDC. SILENCE from DHR. SILENCE from the Governor. SILENCE from the Mayor. SILENCE from black folks working for the CDC and DHR. SILENCE from the black community that has had the information since 2005. All this silence confirming that the days

of ACT UP activism are long gone and that we are now accepting subtle defeat.

The alarm needs to be rung. We need to find our voices and to start shouting again. We need to revitalize our activistic ways and demand that this disease be dealt with in updated and effective ways. Mental Health services needs to be enacted as an HIV Prevention method and not only as an HIV treatment option.

If we don't ring the alarm, then why should we expect someone else to ring it for us? Or have we become so complacent that we actually believe that someone else is finally going to give a damn about black gay people? Have we lost our sense of activism that we no longer care to fight for our lives? Or simply...do we not care???

So I ask who will ring da alarm??? And when it is rung...WILL YOU HEAR IT??? ■

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

It was Saturday night in mid-August. I had three affairs to attend and I knew that each one would be special for different reasons. After the triple 'S' feature (shit, shave, shower) I had to decide what effect I wanted to give.

A v-neck t-shirt under a light yellow Gant cardigan, classic Levi's 501 straight leg fit jeans, cranberry patent leather Prada sneakers with the matching belt and a splash of Ralph Lauren's Purple label cologne should be the perfect "dinner to dancing" ensemble, or so I thought.

I headed out to grab a cab. It's about 15 minutes from my apartment to the first spot. I paid the cabby and jumped out a block away. I don't know why but I have something against pulling up in front of any venue in a cab. I strolled casually past the line of people and up to the door person. I gave my name and after a quick once-over, the red velvet ropes parted and for a quick second it felt like the Red Sea parted and I was Moses.

The crowd inside was aesthetically pleasing. And though I hate to be a narcissist but all eyes seemed to be following me. I walked over to the bar and before I could order my strawberry Mojito the hostess was ushering me to a table for bottle service. I thought to myself, "Oh boy, it's going to be one of those nights." I had been labeled, assumed and prejudged all in the three minutes I'd been inside. Not that this was necessarily a bad thing.

Ask yourself the following questions: Do people judge you based on what they see? Do you often form an opinion

(...continues on page 22)

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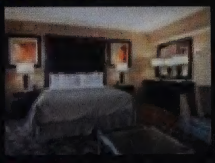

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(...continued from page 20)

of someone by taking one look at him or her? And, do we bring this on ourselves?

The reality is, we do make judgments based on appearances, which is the way a first impression is made. So while it may not be an appropriate assessment, it's the only information we have to form an opinion. Therefore, we should be aware that our "drag" is essentially the way people perceive us. Initially anyway.

Think about the "straight" boys who run the streets with their backsides exposed in all its beautiful, firm glory! I'm sure they must know the legions of men and women lusting after them as they parade back and forth across the street holding their pants up with one hand. Could it be we are caught up in prejudging everybody to be homosexual? Perhaps! However, aren't they aware that their butt-revealing style is a gay magnet? Whatever the case, they definitely hold some responsibility for the way we perceive them.

This image casting crosses over into the gay community. Who we are supposed to be in bed is often pre-determined by what we have on. Take for instance my straight legs jeans, yellow cardigan and cranberry sneakers. To me it's stylish, but it's funny because gay guys think I'm a bottom, females think I'm metrosexual and straight folk think I'm trying to be like Kanye West. To take it a step further poor people think I'm loaded and A-listers think I'm a poser. The frustrating thing is I am none of those things! However, I do realize it's the price one pays for style. ■

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zMarie wears:
elvet and lace bodice by Darius Wobil
utton down by Kenneth Cole
op hat by Rod Keenan NY
Kadeent wears:
uxedo shirt by Louis Vuitton
ie by Givenchy
est by Ralph Lauren Purple Label
op hat by Rod Keenan NY
pider cufflinks by Avicci
MISTAKEN IDENTITY
IMAGE RE-DEFINED
Photographed by Don Brodie
Fashion Director Curtis Davis
Words by Teren

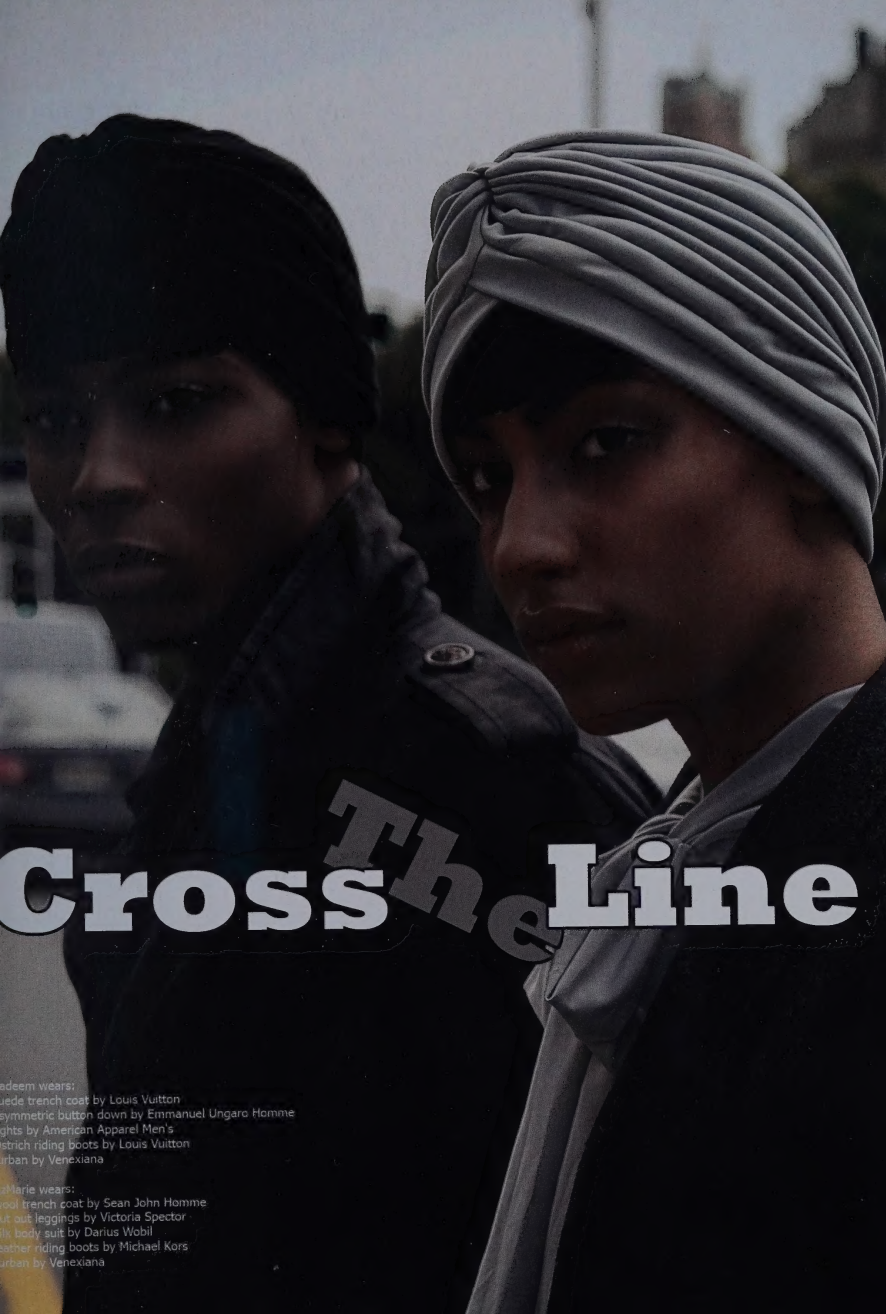
Him or Me

Kadeem wears:
suit and tuxedo shirt by Edwing D'Angelo Couture
patent shoes by Christian Dior Homme
pocket square by Ralph Lauren Purple Label

AzMarie wears:
tuxedo and shirt by Edwing D'Angelo Couture
shoes by Giuseppe Zanotti

Kadeem at JG Model Management
AzMarie at Identities Models
Photographer's Assistant: Ron Brodie
Fashion Assistant: Gary Davis
Stylist: Daniel Williams
Make Up: Jewel Whinfield
Assistant: Tekoa Nash
Hair: Goldie

Shot on location at Rockwell's Bar Lounge
Brooklyn, New York



edeem wears:
uede trench coat by Louis Vuitton
symmetric button down by Emmanuel Ungaro Homme
ghts by American Apparel Men's
strich riding boots by Louis Vuitton
rban by Venexiana

Marie wears:
ool trench coat by Sean John Homme
t out leggings by Victoria Spector
s body suit by Darius Wobil
ather riding boots by Michael Kors
rban by Venexiana

Butch vs *Fem*

AzMarie wears:
button down shirt and vest by H&M
tie by Buckie Brown
slinky jeans by Levi's
sneakers by Creative Recreation
sunglasses by [illegible]
hat by Comme Des Garcon for H&M

Kadeem wears:
blow job T (authentic from St. Louis, LA)
plaid button down by Cocktail
super skinny jeans by Chip and Pepper
sneakers by [illegible]
hat by Bailey's of Hollywood
necklace by Dietz of two Rooms jewelry
crystal encrusted sunglasses by NY Costu

deem wears:
nts by American Apparel Men's
oes by Fratelli Rosetti
ck piece by Two Rooms Jewelry

Marie wears :
ks by American Apparel
ss knuckle heels by Ellie
cklace and bracelet by Betty Badd Couture

Music

DY'ARI
(dī'ə-rē)

The essence of emotion is only as evident as the person who expresses it. We all need a unique way to pour from our heart those things that are heavy on our mind, whether it's a blog, a video, a Hallmark card, or maybe this time, a Dy'Ari.

Like it sounds, this Dy'Ari is a vault of stories, dreams, visions, and aspirations balanced with heartache, disappointment, pain, all intertwined with the strength of heart to rise above adversity. Every chapter, every page, every story, every lesson strikes a chord with this musical artist.

Producers Miykal Snoddy (Mary J. Blige, Brandy, Jamie Foxx) and Lounge Lizzards (Lil Scrappy) are expanding the spectrum of popular music by uniting their production with the warm and energetic vocals that pulsate from the studies of Donnie Hathaway. With songs like The Colors of Me, a playful self-description of his many curiosities, to Human After All, a ballad anthem that professes to adversaries the knowledge of his value, Dy'Ari explores the stories of love of self and others in dramatic and bold ways.

The Detroit, Michigan native's path is directed by the memories of those things he had envisioned would always come to past. Destiny was never a stranger, so the music is merely the expressions of divine inspiration. Dy'Ari is the vessel of something bigger than music, than performance, than production. He is an author of the music of life. His life. His way. His words. ■

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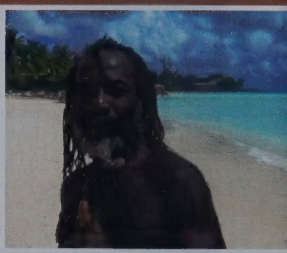
Art

ANTHONY MOULTRY
A LIFE IN PICTURES

"I was given my first camera at 8 years-old," remembers rising photographer Anthony Moultry. "And I won my first award—a junior photography contest—at 9 years-old."



His reflection is beyond a boast. It's a declaration. It's a statement filled with the passion and promise of an extraordinarily decisive child, who as a toddler, set his sights on a career he saw filled with excitement and beauty. "I gravitated towards photography watching my father, who is a talented photographer as well. I believe I subconsciously attained my perspective by observing his photos. Photography can be addictive and it became so for me at a very early age."

Surrounded by skill at home and enveloped by the beauty of his native Florida surely aided in his growth as a camera fiend. "Growing up in South Florida was quite unique," says Moultry, who majored in Cinematography in high school at the prestigious Dillard School of the Performing Arts in Ft. Lauderdale and served as a student photogra-

pher for the city's noted Sun-Sentinel newspaper. "My upbringing and surroundings were diverse and cosmopolitan. South Florida is a wonderful cornucopia of Caribbean, South American and European ethnicities and creeds. I recognized that the world we live in isn't simply Black and White and that while America is amazing it certainly isn't the center of the universe."

He credits his mother with instilling his global grasp. "My mom took me on a flight to Nassau, Bahamas when I was barely 3. She wanted to give me the experience of air travel and I have had the travel bug ever since. For my family, globetrotting became the norm and I am still addicted."

His cravings for travel directed him to forgo Law School after graduating from the esteemed Morehouse College with a degree in Political Science. Instead, Anthony decided to marry his zeal for pictures with his fervor for discovering distant lands. "I've traveled through Europe, South America, Asia, the Caribbean and Africa."

His extensive travels are the basis of his new photography exhibit, WORLD CITIZEN, which debuts in Miami during Memorial Weekend this year. The exhibit is comprised of photos from Atlanta, Bangkok, Buenos Aires, Cairo, Caracas, San Juan and Tokyo. "I am excited about introducing my photography to a broader audience during Miami's huge party, Sizzle, where people will be in attendance from all over the US and Caribbean." It will be his largest exhibit and audience to date. "Creativity means the world to me and even though I am still a work in progress, I am confident that my photography will impact the world. ■

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